Tax free import of vegetable oils

†1656. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have permitted tax free import of vegetable oils and other comodities;

(b) whether this is causing financial losses to the domestic industrialists and manufacturers; and

(c) the reasons for not adopting uniform tax policy for the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INUDSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Import of vegetable oils is covered under the freely importable category of ITC HS with payment of applicable Customs Duties. All other goods otehr than restricted and prohibited goods are freely importable subject to applicable duties, levies and other stipulations.

The import of duty free raw materials and inputs are allowed for value addition and export.

Further duty free and concessional duty import are also allowed under the terms and conditions governing free trade agreements, regional trade agreements and preferential trade agreements entered into by India.

(b) and (c) The impact on domestic industry is taken into consideration while formulating the Foreign Trade Policy, determining the import duty regime and the trade agreements.

Suggestions of PHDCCI

1657. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Progress, Harmony and Development Chamber of Commerce and Industry has recently suggested to Government that functions of various Ministries related with manufacturing sector should be coordinated by a unified body to help reduce the

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.